

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V  
POLLUTION REPORT**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



294167

**Date:** Friday, March 28, 2008

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**Subject:** U.S. Scrap

12300 S. Cottage Grove Ave/12301 S. King Drive, Chicago, IL

Latitude: 41.67

Longitude: -87.6036

**POLREP No.:** 3

**Site #:**

**Reporting Period:** 3/07/2008-3/28/2008

**D.O. #:**

**Start Date:** 1/23/2008

**Response Authority:** CERCLA

**Mob Date:** 1/23/2008

**Response Type:** Time-Critical

**Completion Date:**

**NPL Status:** Non NPL

**CERCLIS ID #:** ILD980679484

**Incident Category:** Removal Action

**RCRIS ID #:**

**Contract #**

**Site Description**

The U.S. Scrap Site is located at 12301 South Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. The Site is an abandoned debarrelling facility that operated as an open dump in the late 1960s and early 1970s. It occupies approximately 6½ acres and is bordered by railroad right-of-way to the west, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) of Greater Chicago's Calumet Sewage Treatment Plant to the South and East, and S.G. Keywell, Inc., a scrap metal recycling operation to the North. The Site is located approximately 1 mile west of Lake Calumet and ½ mile northeast of the Little Calumet River. The Site is also located within one mile of residential housing.

From the late 1960s to 1975, Mr. Steve Martell conducted drum reclamation activities at the U.S. Scrap Site. Non-reclaimable drums and wastes from re-claimable drums were emptied into on-site pits. Waste received at U.S. Scrap for on-site incineration was allegedly dumped at the Site.

U.S. EPA conducted a removal action at the site in 1985, extinguishing a landfill fire by capping the affected areas with clay, and excavating and backfilling a railroad embankment, in an attempt to locate shock-sensitive chemicals. A special study conducted in 1987 revealed that elevated levels of many hazardous substances remained, including PCBs, pesticides, and organic solvents.

By correspondence dated June 28, 2005, Illinois EPA asked U.S. EPA to conduct a time-critical removal assessment and possible removal action at the Site.

U.S. EPA's Site Assessment, which occurred June 25th, 2007, determined that Site soils were heavily contaminated with PCBs, chlorinated solvents, lead and cadmium.

Surface liquids sampled during U.S. EPA's Site Assessment showed high levels of vinyl chloride, benzene, ethylbenzene, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, toluene, total xylenes, bis (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, dichlorobenzene, diethyl phthalate, di-n-butylphthalate, 2-methylnaphthalene, acenaphthene, acenaphthylene, anthracene, benz(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(g,h,i)perylene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, chrysene, dibenz(a,h)anthracene, fluoranthene, fluorene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, naphthalene, phenanthrene, pyrene, alpha chlordane, total chlordane, gamma chlordane. Surface liquids also included several PCBs include aroclor 1242, aroclor 1254, and aroclor 1260.

On January 22nd, 2008 U.S. EPA received an access agreement to conduct a time critical removal action at the site.

### **Current Activities**

For the period of March 7 through March 28, 2008, EPA, the ERRS contractor, Environmental Quality Management, and the START contractor, STNJV, continued site activities.

START continued conducting air monitoring of work zones and 11 perimeter monitoring locations with a Mulitrae. Additional monitoring was conducted during the installation of sheets along the trench.

START collected four air samples during two days of ERRS regrading of the drainage ditch banks near the trench. The air samples were analyzed for BTEX.

ERRS placed the water treatment system "Springfield Belle" along with two additional Frac Tanks on the service road on site. The original Frac Tank was moved from the northern section of the site to an area near the water treatment system.

The system will reduce the levels of organics in the water to meet the MWRD standards for discharging into their system. ERRS will collect sample prior to releasing the treated water to make sure the treated water meets the MWRD standards. Initial treated water results indicated elevated levels of MEK in the treated water. ERRS added an aeration system inside the treated tank to reduce the additional organics in the treated water.

ERRS completed installation of sheet piling to a depth of approximately 10 feet between the U.S. Scrap property boundary and the MWRD property. A total of approximately 678 linear feet of sheet piling have been installed. The sheet piling will act as a barrier to minimize off-site migration of contaminants.

Site security continues on off-hours and weekends.

### **Planned Removal Actions**

Continue pumping liquids out of the lagoon area and into the water treatment system. Dispose of treated water.

Dispose of contaminated soil, as necessary.

### **Next Steps**

Complete action noted above.

### **Key Issues**

Analyze the treated water to make sure the levels are at or below the MWRD discharge limits. If treated water cannot meet MWRD discharge limits, other disposal options will be evaluated.

### **Estimated Costs \***

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Total To Date</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>% Remaining</b>
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$1,000,000.00	\$552,135.00	\$447,865.00	44.79%
RST/START	\$99,000.00	\$54,737.00	\$44,263.00	44.71%
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	<b>\$1,099,000.00</b>	<b>\$606,872.00</b>	<b>\$492,128.00</b>	<b>44.78%</b>

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.